

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6687

January Session, 2001

AN ACT CONCERNING REDUCTION OF MERCURY IN THE ENVIRONMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) The General Assembly finds that mercury is a
- 2 persistent and toxic pollutant that bioaccumulates in the environment,
- 3 and that in order to create and maintain a healthful environment and
- 4 protect public health, the virtual elimination of the discharge of
- 5 anthropogenic mercury should be pursued.
- 6 Sec. 2. (NEW) As used in sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act:
- 7 (1) "Mercury" means elemental mercury and mercury compounds;
- 8 (2) "Mercury-added product" means a product, commodity,
- 9 chemical or component of a product that contains mercury that is
- 10 intentionally added to the product, commodity, chemical or
- 11 component for any reason. "Mercury-added product" includes, but is
- 12 not limited to, formulated mercury-added products and fabricated
- mercury-added products. "Mercury-added product" does not include
- 14 any packaging component, as defined in subdivision (3) of section 22a-
- 15 255h of the general statutes;
- 16 (3) "Formulated mercury-added product" means a mercury-added
- 17 product that is sold as a consistent mixture of chemicals, including, but
- 18 not limited to, laboratory chemicals, materials used for cleaning,

- 19 maintenance or disinfection, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, coating
- 20 materials, acids, alkalites, bleach or sodium hypochlorite
- 21 pharmaceutical products, stains, reagents, preservatives, fixatives,
- 22 buffers and dyes;

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- 23 (4) "Fabricated mercury-added product" means a mercury-added 24 product that consists of a combination of individual components that 25 combine to make a single unit, including, but not limited to, mercury-26 added measuring devices, lamps and switches;
- 27 (5) "Mercury fever thermometer" means a mercury-added product 28 that is used for measuring body temperature, excluding a digital 29 thermometer that includes a button cell battery containing mercury;
 - (6) "Mercury-added novelty" means a mercury-added product intended mainly for personal or household enjoyment or adornment, including, but not limited to, products intended for use as practical jokes, figurines, adornments, toys, games, cards, ornaments, yard statues and figures, candles, jewelry, holiday decorations or footwear or other items of apparel. A product is not a "mercury-added novelty" solely on the basis that it includes a removable button cell battery containing mercury;
 - (7) "Manufacturer" means any person, that (A) produces a mercury-added product, or (B) serves as an importer or domestic distributor of a mercury-added product produced outside the United States. In the case of a multi-component product, "manufacturer" means the last manufacturer to produce or assemble the product, unless the multi-component mercury-added product is produced outside the United States, in which case "manufacturer" means the importer or domestic distributor;
 - (8) "Person" means any individual, organization, partnership, joint venture, association, firm, limited liability company, corporation or other entity, and includes a municipality, the federal government, the state or any instrumentality of the state, or other governmental entity and any officer or governing or managing body of any partnership,

- association, firm or corporation or any member or manager of a limited liability company;
- 53 (9) "School" means a public school, as defined in section 10-183b of 54 the general statutes or a private elementary or secondary school, 55 attendance at which meets the requirements of section 10-184 of the 56 general statutes excluding state vocational schools;
- (10) "Vehicle" means any device capable of being moved upon a public highway and any device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway, but does not include devices moved by human or animal power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks;
- 62 (11) "Scrap metal" means used or discarded items that consist 63 predominantly of ferrous metals, aluminum, brass, copper, lead, 64 chromium, tin, nickel or alloys;
 - (12) "Solid waste" means unwanted or discarded solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material, including, but not limited to, demolition debris, material burned or otherwise processed at a resources recovery facility or incinerator, material processed at a recycling facility and sludges or other residue from a water pollution abatement facility, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility;
- 72 (13) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Environmental 73 Protection;
- 74 (14) "Department" means the Department of Environmental 75 Protection:
- (15) "Pollution abatement facility" means any equipment, plant, treatment works, structure, machinery, apparatus or land or any combination thereof, acquired, used, constructed or operated for the storage, collection, reduction, recycling, reclamation, disposal, separation or treatment of water or wastes, or for the final disposal of

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- but not limited to; pumping and ventilating stations, facilities, plants
- and works; outfall sewers, interceptor sewers and collector sewers; and
- 84 other real or personal property and appurtenances incident to their use
- 85 or operation;

- 86 (16) "Subsurface sewage disposal system" means a system consisting
- 87 of a house or collection sewer, a septic tank followed by a leaching
- 88 system, any necessary pumps or siphons and any groundwater control
- system on which the operation of the leaching system is dependent.
- 90 Sec. 3. (NEW) The commissioner may participate in the
- 91 establishment and implementation of a regional, multi-state
- 92 clearinghouse to assist in carrying out the requirements set forth in
- 93 sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act and to help coordinate reviews of
- 94 the manufacturers' notifications regarding mercury-added products,
- 95 applications for phase-out exemptions, collection system plans,
- 96 disclosures of mercury content, applications for alternative labeling or
- 97 notification systems or both, education and outreach activities, and any
- other functions related to sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act. The clearinghouse may also maintain a list of all products containing
- 99 clearinghouse may also maintain a list of all products containing 100 mercury, including mercury-added products, a file on all exemptions
- granted by the states including, but not limited to, the exemptions in
- section 7 of this act, notification requirements by manufacturers
- including, but not limited to, the notification requirements contained
- in section 4 of this act, and a file of manufacturers' reports on the
- 105 effectiveness of their collection systems.
- Sec. 4. (NEW) (a) On and after January 1, 2002, no person shall offer
- any mercury-added product for sale or use by any means, including e-
- 108 commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes in the state unless
- 109 the manufacturer gives prior notification in writing to the
- 110 commissioner as provided in this section. Such notification, in a form
- prescribed by the commissioner, shall at a minimum include (1) a brief
- description of the product or category of products to be offered for sale
- 113 or use or distributed; (2) an identification of each product by its

- 114 mercury content in one of the following ranges: Less than zero to five 115 milligrams, greater than five milligrams to ten milligrams, greater than 116 ten milligrams to fifty milligrams, greater than fifty milligrams to one 117 hundred milligrams, greater than one hundred milligrams to one 118 thousand milligrams and greater than one thousand milligrams; (3) an 119 identification of the purpose for mercury in each component of the 120 product; and (4) the name and address of the manufacturer and the 121 name, address and phone number of a contact person at the 122 manufacturer. The manufacturer shall revise the information in the 123 notification whenever there is significant change in the information or 124 when requested by the commissioner.
 - (b) With the approval of the commissioner, the manufacturer may supply the information required in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section for a product category rather than an individual product.
 - (c) Public disclosure of confidential business information submitted to the commissioner pursuant to this section shall be governed by the provisions of chapter 14 of the general statutes. Notwithstanding the provisions of said chapter 14, the commissioner may provide the interstate clearinghouse with copies of such information and the commissioner and the interstate clearinghouse may compile or publish analyses or summaries of such information, provided the analyses or summaries do not identify any manufacturer or reveal any confidential information.
 - Sec. 5. (NEW) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of this act, on and after July 1, 2002, no person shall offer for sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes in the state any mercury-added novelty. A manufacturer that produces or sells mercury-added novelties shall notify retailers that sell mercury-added novelties about such product ban and inform such retailers of how to dispose of the remaining inventory in accordance with chapter 445 of the general statutes.

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- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of this act, on and after January 1, 2002, no person shall offer for sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes mercury fever thermometers except by prescription written by a physician. A manufacturer of mercury fever thermometers shall provide the buyer or the recipient with notice of mercury content, instructions on proper disposal and instructions that clearly describe how to carefully handle the thermometer to avoid breakage and instructions on proper cleanup should a breakage occur.
- (c) On and after July 1, 2002, no school shall use or purchase for use or maintain inventories of bulk elemental mercury or mercury compounds. A manufacturer that produces, sells or distributes such materials shall notify schools about the provisions of this subsection in accordance with chapter 445 of the general statutes and instruct schools how to dispose of the remaining inventory properly. This subsection does not apply to mercury-added products other than bulk elemental mercury compounds. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall examine the feasibility of implementing a program for the collection of bulk elemental mercury or mercury compounds at schools, and shall implement such a program within available appropriations.
- (d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a vocational dental education or training school, except that on and after July 1, 2002, no vocational dental education or training school shall use mercury amalgam unless such school has developed and implemented a plan approved by the commissioner that assures best management practices are used to prevent discharge of mercury into the waters of the state, any pollution abatement facility or subsurface sewage disposal system, and to properly handle and recycle or dispose of waste elemental mercury and amalgam. Such plan shall provide for an education program for students regarding the hazards of mercury and best management practices.
 - (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of this act, on and

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after July 1, 2002, no person shall offer for sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes mercury dairy manometers. A manufacturer that produce or sell mercury dairy manometers shall notify retailers about the provisions of this subsection and how to dispose of the remaining inventory properly in accordance with chapter 445 of the general statutes. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Commissioner of Agriculture, shall examine the feasibility of implementing a collection and replacement program for dairy manometers, and shall implement such a program within available appropriations.

- Sec. 6. (NEW) (a) Except as provided in section 7 of this act, no person shall offer for sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes any mercury-added product if: (1) After July 1, 2003, the mercury content of the product exceeds one gram in the case of fabricated mercury-added products or two hundred fifty parts per million in the case of formulated mercury-added products; (2) on and after July 1, 2005, the mercury content of the product exceeds one hundred milligrams in the case of fabricated mercury-added products or fifty parts per million in the case of formulated mercury-added products; and (3) after July 1, 2007, the mercury content of the product exceeds ten milligrams in the case of fabricated mercury-added products or ten parts per million in the case of formulated mercury-added products.
- (b) In the case of a product that contains one or more mercury-added products as a component, the phase-out limits specified in subsection (a) of this section apply to each component part or parts and not to the entire product.
- (c) For a product that contains more than one mercury-added products as a component, the phase-out limits specified in subsection(a) of this section apply to each component and not the sum of the mercury and all the components.
- Sec. 7. (NEW) (a) On or before June 30, 2008, fluorescent lamps are

- 211 exempt from the provisions of subsection (a) of section 6 of this act. On 212 and after July 1, 2009, no person shall offer for sale or use by any 213 means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes, 214 fluorescent lamps if the mercury content of the fluorescent lamps (1) 215 exceeds ten milligrams, or (2) does not comply with the exemption 216 requirements pursuant to subsection (a) of section 6 of this act.
 - (b) The commissioner shall exempt a mercury-added product from the limits on total mercury content set forth in subsection (a) of section 6 of this act if the level of mercury or mercury compounds contained in the product are necessary to comply with federal or state health or safety requirements. In order to obtain an exemption under this subsection, the manufacturer shall provide the commissioner with justification for the claim of such exemption.
 - (c) (1) A manufacturer of a mercury-added product or category of products may apply to the commissioner for an exemption for no more than two years from the limits on total mercury content set forth in subsection (a) of section 6 of this act. The manufacturer shall apply for such an exemption (A) no later than one year before the effective date of the limit for which the exemption is being requested in the case of an existing product or category of products, or (B) prior to the sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distribution in the case of promotional purposes of a new product or category of products.
 - (2) An application for an exemption shall (A) document the basis for the requested exemption or renewal of exemption, (B) describe how the manufacturer will ensure that a system exists for the proper collection, transportation and processing of the product or products at the end of their useful life, and (C) document the capability of all parties that are necessary to such system to perform as intended in such system.
 - (3) The commissioner may grant, with modifications or conditions, an exemption for a product or category of products upon finding (A) that a system exists for the proper collection, transportation and

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- processing of the mercury-added product, including, but not limited to, a system for the direct return of a waste product to the manufacturer or a collection and recycling system that is supported by an industry or trade group, or other similar private or public sector efforts; and (B) that each of the following criteria is met: (i) Use of the product is beneficial to the environment or protective of public health or protective of public safety; (ii) there is no technically feasible alternative to use of mercury in the product; (iii) there is no comparable product, other than a mercury-added product, available at reasonable cost; and (iv) with respect to a renewal of an exemption, reasonable efforts have been made to remove mercury from the product.
 - (4) Prior to issuing an exemption, the commissioner may consult with states and provinces and regional governmental organizations to promote consistency in the implementation of this section.
 - (5) The commissioner may renew, for a period of no longer than two years, an exemption one or more times if (A) the manufacturer applies for the renewal, and (B) the commissioner finds that the manufacturer meets the requirements for such exemption as provided in this section and that the manufacturer has complied with all the conditions of the original approval.
 - Sec. 8. (NEW) (a) On and after July 1, 2003, no person shall offer for sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes any mercury-added product unless both the product and its packaging are labeled in accordance with this section, any regulations adopted pursuant to this section or the terms of any approved alternative labeling or notification granted under subsection (h) of this section. A retailer shall not be found in violation of this subsection if the retailer lacked knowledge that the product contained mercury.
- (b) If a mercury-added product is a component of another product, the product containing the component and the component shall both

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- be labeled as provided in this section. The label on a product containing a mercury-added component shall identify the component with sufficient detail so that the component may be readily located for removal.
 - (c) All labels shall be clearly visible prior to sale and shall inform the purchaser, using words or symbols, that mercury is present in the product and that the product should not be disposed of or placed in a waste stream destined for disposal until the mercury is removed and reused, recycled or otherwise managed to ensure that the mercury in the product does not become mixed with other solid waste or discharge to the waters of the state or is not disposed of in a pollution abatement facility or subsurface sewage disposal system.
 - (d) Labels affixed to the product shall be constructed of materials that are sufficiently durable to remain legible for the useful life of the product.
 - (e) On and after July 1, 2003, any person offering a mercury-added product for sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distributing such product for promotional purposes shall clearly advise in writing the purchaser or recipient prior to the time of sale, use or distribution that the product contains mercury. This requirement applies to all transactions in which the purchaser or recipient is unable to view the labels on the package or the product prior to purchase or receipt, including, but not limited to, catalog, telephone and e-commerce transactions.
 - (f) The manufacturer of a product shall be responsible for product and package labels required under this section, unless the wholesaler or retailer agrees in writing to accept the responsibility of implementing an alternative to the labeling requirements of this section approved under subsection (h) of this section.
 - (g) [In the case of the following products:] (1) Manufacturers shall meet all the requirements of this section for large appliances, including, but not limited to, washers, dryers, ovens, including

microwave ovens, refrigerators, freezers, trash compactors, air conditioners, dehumidifiers or portable heaters sold in a store where such appliance is on display, except that no package labeling is required; (2) manufacturers shall meet all the requirements of this section for mercury fever thermometers, except that no product labeling is required; (3) in the case of vehicles, (A) manufacturers shall meet the product labeling requirements of this section for vehicles by placing a label on the door of the vehicles that lists the mercury-added components that may be present in the vehicle, and (B) manufacturers need not label the mercury-added components of the vehicle; (4) manufacturers of button cell batteries containing mercury shall be exempt from this section; (5) in the case of products that contain button cell batteries containing mercury as the only mercury components, manufacturers of such products shall be exempt from this section; (6) manufacturers of nonprescription drug products that are regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration shall be exempt from this section; and (7) manufacturers of dental amalgam shall follow the best management practices guidelines for manufacturers developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 14 of this act.

- (h) (1) A manufacturer may apply to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection for an alternative to the requirements of subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section if: (A) Compliance with the requirements is not feasible or (B) the proposed alternative would be at least as effective in providing presale notification of mercury content and in providing instructions on proper disposal.
- (2) Applications for an alternative to the requirements of subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section shall: (A) Document the justification for the requested alternative; (B) describe how the alternative ensures that purchasers or recipients of mercury-added products are made aware of mercury content prior to purchase or receipt; (C) describe how a person discarding the product will be made aware of the need for proper handling to ensure that it does not become solid waste or is not discharged to the waters of the state or is not disposed in a pollution abatement facility or subsurface sewage

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disposal system; (D) document the capability of all parties necessary to implement the proposed alternative; and (E) describe the performance measures to be utilized by the manufacturer to demonstrate that the alternative is providing effective presale notification and predisposal notification.

- (3) The commissioner may approve, deny, modify or condition a request for an alternative to the requirements of subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section. An approval shall be for a period of no more than two years and may, upon continued eligibility under the criteria of this section and compliance with the conditions of its prior approval, be renewed. Requests for renewals shall be submitted ninety days before the expiration of the approval. Prior to approving an alternative, the commissioner shall consult with states, provinces and regional government organizations to insure that the manufacturer's labeling requirements are not in conflict with those of other jurisdictions in the region. The commissioner may revoke an approval for cause.
- Sec. 9. (NEW) (a) On and after July 1, 2003, no person shall knowingly (1) dispose of a mercury-added product or a mercury-added component in a manner other than by recycling or disposal in accordance with the provisions of chapter 446d or 446k of the general statutes or Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 USC 6901 et seq., as amended, or (2) discharge mercury to the waters of the state, a pollution abatement facility or subsurface sewage disposal system, unless such discharge is in compliance with all local, state and federal applicable requirements.
 - (b) Each permittee of a solid waste facility shall (1) post signs at the facility providing notice of the prohibition of the disposal and incineration of mercury-added products; (2) provide written notification either in contractual agreements or to the municipalities serviced by the facility on a frequency determined by the commissioner of the prohibition on the disposal and incineration of mercury-added products; and (3) implement a plan approved by the

- commissioner for periodically monitoring incoming wastes to detect the presence of mercury-added products at the facility. A solid waste facility shall not be considered in violation of this act if it unknowingly
- 377 receives a mercury-added product or mercury-added component.
- (c) Solid waste disposal facilities, scrap metal processors or businesses that accept appliances or vehicles for disposal, reclamation or recycling shall remove mercury-added components, except for lamps used for back lighting and displays, prior to crushing, shredding or processing for disposal or reuse.
 - (d) A formulated mercury-added product that is a cosmetic or pharmaceutical product subject to the requirements imposed by the federal Food and Drug Administration is exempt from the provisions of this section.
 - Sec. 10. (NEW) (a) On and after two years after the date that the commissioner adopts a universal waste rule in accordance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 USC 6901, et seq., as amended, no person shall offer any mercury-added product for sale or use by any means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes unless the manufacturer either on its own or in concert with other persons has a plan approved by the commissioner for a collection system for such products. If a mercury-added product is a component of another product, the collection system shall provide for removal and collection of the mercury-added component or collection of both the mercury-added component and the product containing it.
 - (b) The collection system shall include (1) a public education program to inform the public about the purpose of the collection program and how to participate in it; (2) capture rate targets for the mercury-added product or component; (3) a plan for implementing and financing the collection system; (4) documentation of the willingness of all parties to the system to implement the proposed collection system; (5) a description of the performance measures to be

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- 406 utilized and reported by the manufacturer to demonstrate that the 407 collection system is meeting capture rate targets and other measures of 408 program effectiveness as required by the commissioner; (6) a 409 description of additional or alternative actions that will be 410 implemented to improve the collection system and its operation in the 411 event that the capture rate targets are not met; and (7) a recycling or 412 disposal plan.
- 413 The commissioner shall encourage a manufacturer, in 414 developing a collection system plan, to utilize or expand existing 415 collection and recycling infrastructure where feasible and cost-416 effective. In the event the manufacturer decides not to utilize existing 417 local collection and recycling infrastructure, the manufacturer shall 418 include in its collection system plan the reasons for its decision to 419 establish a separate collection system.
 - (d) Within one year of approval by the commissioner of the collection system plan, the manufacturer or entity that submitted the plan on behalf of the manufacturer shall complete the implementation of such plan.
 - (e) Two years following the implementation of the collection system plan required under this section and biennially thereafter, the manufacturer or entity that submitted the plan on behalf of the manufacturer shall submit a report to the commissioner on the effectiveness of the collection system. The report shall include an estimate of the amount of mercury that was collected, the capture rate for the mercury-added products or components, the results of the other performance measures included in the manufacturer's collection system plan, and such other information as the commissioner may require. The commissioner shall make such reports available to the public.
- 435 (f) The cost for the collection system shall be borne by the 436 manufacturer of the mercury-added product.
- 437 (g) The commissioner shall review the state regulatory requirements

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- 438 pursuant to chapter 446d or 446k of the general statutes governing
- 439 handling of waste from mercury-added products and, if necessary,
- 440 may amend regulations as appropriate to facilitate collection.
- 441 (h) Formulated mercury-added products intended to be totally
- 442 consumed in use, including, but not limited to, reagents, cosmetics,
- 443 pharmaceuticals and other laboratory chemicals, are exempt from the
- 444 provisions of this section.
- 445 Sec. 11. (NEW) (a) On and after July 1, 2002, a manufacturer of
- 446 formulated products that contain mercury-added products or
- 447 mercury-added compounds, and are offered for sale or use by any
- 448 means, including e-commerce, or distributed to a health care facility
- 449 for promotional purposes shall provide the recipient health care
- 450 facility a certificate of analysis documenting the range of mercury
- 451 content of the product. Sampling and analytical techniques used in the
- 452 analysis shall be capable of detecting mercury to limits of one part per
- 453 billion or less.
- 454 (b) The manufacturer shall develop and implement a plan to assure
- 455 that the certificate of analysis accurately represents the mercury in a
- 456 formulated product. Such plan shall, at a minimum, include an annual
- 457 analysis of the formulated product.
- 458 (c) The manufacturer, upon request of the commissioner, shall
- 459 provide to the commissioner copies of certificates of analysis for the
- 460 purposes of assessing compliance with this section.
- 461 Sec. 12. (NEW) (a) No person shall offer for sale or use by any
- 462 means, including e-commerce, or distribute for promotional purposes
- 463 or provide elemental mercury without providing a Material Safety
- 464 Data Sheet, as defined in 42 USC 11049. On and after July 1, 2002, the
- 465 seller, distributor or provider shall require the purchaser or recipient at
- 466 the time of receipt of any elemental mercury to sign a statement that
- 467 the purchaser or recipient (1) will use the mercury only for medical,
- dental amalgam dispose-caps, research or manufacturing purposes; (2) 468
- 469 understands that mercury is toxic and that the purchaser will store and

- 470 use it appropriately so that no person is exposed to the mercury; and
- 471 (3) will not place or allow anyone under the control of the purchaser or
- 472 recipient to cause the mercury to become solid waste or be discharged
- 473 into waters of the state or be disposed of in a pollution abatement
- 474 facility or subsurface sewage disposal system.
- 475 Sec. 13. (NEW) Mercury-added products with a code or date of
- 476 manufacture indicating they were manufactured prior to July 1, 2001,
- 477 or mercury-added products for which the manufacturer provides
- 478 documentation that the product was manufactured prior to July 1,
- 479 2001, are exempt from sections 6 to 8, inclusive, of this act and sections
- 480 10 and 12 of this act.
- 481 Sec. 14. (NEW) (a) The commissioner, in consultation with other
- 482 state agencies, may implement a comprehensive program for public
- 483 education, outreach and assistance for manufacturers, households,
- 484 waste generators, local and regional solid waste management agencies,
- 485 businesses, health care facilities, scrap metal processors, recyclers,
- 486 dismantlers, institutions, schools and other interested groups. This
- 487 public education, outreach and assistance program may focus on the
- 488 hazards of mercury; the requirements and obligations of individuals,
- 489 manufacturers and agencies under this act and voluntary efforts that
- 490 individuals, institutions and businesses can undertake to help further
- 491 reduce mercury in the environment. The commissioner, in conjunction
- 492 with manufacturers of mercury-added products and other affected
- 493 businesses, may promote the development and implementation of
- 494 such public education and technical assistance programs.
- 495 (b) The commissioner may cooperate with other states and
- 496 provinces and regional organizations in developing public education,
- 497 outreach and assistance programs.
- 498 (c) The commissioner may develop an awards program to recognize
- 499 accomplishments of manufacturers, municipalities,
- 500 management facilities, waste recycling facilities, household hazardous
- 501 waste collection facilities, citizens or others who exceed the minimum

- requirements pursuant to sections 4 to 13, inclusive, of this act, and excel at reducing or eliminating mercury in air emissions or releases.
- (d) The commissioner shall prepare and publish guidelines for best management practices for dental offices and laboratories. Such guidelines shall not be considered "regulations" as defined in section 4-166 of the general statutes.
- Sec. 15. (NEW) (a) No later than July 1, 2002, the Department of Administrative Services shall revise its policies, rules and procedures to give priority and preference to the purchase of equipment, supplies and other products that contain no mercury-added compounds or components, unless there is no economically feasible alternative product, other than a mercury-added product that performs a similar function or produces a product of comparable quality. In circumstances where a product other than a mercury-added product is not available, preference shall be given to the purchase of products that contain the least amount of mercury added to the product necessary for the required performance.
 - (b) The Commissioner of Administrative Services may give a price preference of up to ten per cent for products that contain no mercury or less mercury for all state purchases, including purchases made by other state agencies with state funds. Energy efficient lamps for lighting purposes shall be purchased in preference to other less efficient lighting options. To the maximum extent possible, purchases shall be restricted to lamps that contain the lowest total mercury content per lumen hour available. The state shall, to the maximum extent feasible, recycle spent lamps.
 - (c) The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall specify products other than mercury-added products or reduced mercuryadded products, as applicable, in procurement bid documents.
- 531 (d) State contracts for employee dental insurance negotiated after the effective date of this section shall provide equal coverage for 532 533 fillings other than mercury-added fillings and mercury amalgam

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fillings at no additional expense to the state employee.

Sec. 16. (NEW) The commissioner shall, in consultation with the Conference of the New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers Environment Committee, review the effectiveness of sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act, no later than four years after the effective date of this act and shall provide a report based upon such review to the Governor and the General Assembly. The report shall review the effectiveness of the programs required under sections 1 to 18, inclusive, of this act, and may contain recommendations for improving them. As part of this review, the commissioner shall evaluate the effectiveness of the collection systems established in section 10 of this act, and determine whether additional state authority or targeted capture rates are needed to improve such systems. The commissioner shall evaluate the need for additional incentives for manufacturers of mercury-added products that are below ten milligrams to reduce the amount of mercury in such products.

Sec. 17. (NEW) Prior to the issuance of any exemptions as provided in section 7 of this act or approval of alternative labeling requirements, as provided in section 8 of this act, the manufacturer shall provide public notice of a request for an exemption on a form supplied by the commissioner in accordance with this section, publish notice of such request in a newspaper having a general circulation in the affected area and send the commissioner a certified copy of such notice as it appeared in said newspaper and the commissioner shall provide an opportunity for comment not less than thirty days from such issuance or approval.

Sec. 18. (NEW) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of sections 1 to 17, inclusive, of this act, and to establish fees that manufacturers shall pay that are sufficient to cover the costs of administering the provisions of sections 1 to 17, inclusive, of this act, and to implement the provisions of said sections 1 to 17, inclusive.

Sec. 19. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

Language was deleted as unnecessary and language was reworded for consistency.

ENV Joint Favorable Subst.